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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 040894-7086

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | |
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| Syuichi ISHII, et al. |) | |
| |) | |
| Application No.: Unassigned |) | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| U.S. Filing Date: September 10, 2004 |) | Examiner: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| National Stage of PCT/JP03/02742 |) | |
| |) | |
| PCT Filing Date: March 7, 2003 |) | |

For: **REINFORCING BAR BINDING MACHINE**

Commissioner for Patents
MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application.

Enclosed is a search report from the Japanese Patent Office from the PCT application from which this National Phase U.S. Application is derived, citing the documents, setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

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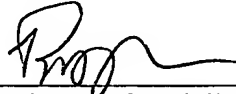
DT09 Rec'd PCT/PTO 10 SEP 2004

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP



Robert J. Goodell Reg. No. 41,040

Date: September 10, 2004

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 739-3000

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) PTO Form 1449 | Attorney Docket No. 040894-7086 | Serial No. |
| | Applicants Shuichi ISHII, et al. | |
| | Filing Date September 10, 2004 | Group |

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| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |
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| *Examiner Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |
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| | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation | |
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| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | JP-6-135411 A | May 17, 1994 | Japan | | | | X |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) |
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| Examiner | Date Considered |
| Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | |